

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the subject application as amended. In response to the Office Action mailed 11/15/04, Applicant is filing this amendment. Claims 1-3, 5-15, 17, 18 and 21 are still pending.

In the Office Action mailed 11/15/04, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawauchi (U.S. Patent 6,519,709). Applicant submits that the amended claims distinguish over the cited art.

Kawauchi discloses a method and device for transferring data between two asynchronously clocked circuits in which the frequencies of the input and output clocks are different. A data holding detection circuit 16 is used to detect whether effective data in data strings stored in the memory 12 is present or not. If it exists, the data holding detection circuit 16 outputs a read pointer renewing signal to the read pointer generating circuit 17. If it does not exist, the data holding detection circuit 16 output a read pointer re-initializing instruction signal to the read pointer generating circuit 17 (Kawauchi at col. 6, lines 52-60).

The embodiments of the invention of the amended claims recite a first clock to write data and a second clock to read data. The clocks have the same frequency, so that only the skewing of the two clocks may corrupt the reading of data. A synchronizing technique introduces a delay in the commencement of the read pointer once the read pointer obtains the pointer value from the write pointer. This feature is not disclosed in Kawauchi. Accordingly, Applicant requests the Examiner to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection and allow pending claims 1-3, 5-15, 17, 18 and 21, as amended.

Furthermore, since this response is being submitted within the first extension period, Applicant is submitting a petition to respond in the first month of the extension period. An extension fee payment and statement is included with this submission. However, if there are any further fees due, please charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2126.

Respectfully submitted,

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